Attorney Docket No.: 47259-5001-00-US (223490)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Application of: |) Confirmation No.: 9193 |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Kazuaki OKUNO et al. |)) Group Art Unit: 1652) |
| Application No.: 10/573,821 | |
| Filed: March 28, 2006 |) Examiner: Sheridan L. Swope |

For: POLYPEPTIDE CLEAVAGE METHOD USING OmpT PROTEASE VARIANT

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE FILED WITH A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 & PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Mail Stop: RCE

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandra, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The present paper responds to the FINAL Office Action mailed October 1, 2010, and is filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). The Office is respectfully requested to consider and enter the following amendments and remarks. Applicants petition herewith for a THIRD-month extension of time and submit the corresponding fee (a ONE-month extension was secured and paid for on January 28, 2011), extending the period of response until April 1, 2011.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 5.

An Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form is attached.